PUDUKKOTTAI STATE
WAR INFORMATION BUREAU

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LECTURE LIII.

OUR ALLY AMERICA.

WE have no alliance with America; America is not at war with our arch-enemy, or anybody else, but we have chosen our title deliberately because there seems to be some tendency to cavil at that great Power on the grounds of dilatoriness, selfishness or mere lack of gumption. This may be less so in the past week or so, but when things looked bad in April and May, remarks like "Why does't America do something about it?", or "Mark my words, America will never come in", were commonly heard. That captiousness in her respect is mischievous and foolish is the principal theme of this paper.

Some months ago, about the time of the Presidential election, we lectured on the then American attitude towards the (then) European war. We pointed out the vastness of the problem that faced Mr. Roosevelt, and must face any successful candidate whatever his previous politics. An enormous, heterogeneous population, with about as many political creeds as it had nationalities, including anything up to eight million Germans, and nearly as many Italians; with a large proportion of its middle generation of citizens imbued with the idea that the last war and their part in it had been disastrous for the country in spite of victory; with an even larger proportion convinced that the Americas were safe, because of three or four thousand miles of surrounding sea, forming a

strong Isolationist political group; and with an openly anti-British Fifth Column which had had some ten years to insinuate itself into the control of vast financial interests—newspapers, banks, manufacturing trusts and important social and political circles We also took due note of a then all-embracing factor, namely, the military unreadiness of the U.S.A. for *ANY* war whatever, though her Navy had been maintained up to a sound one-ocean defence-standard.

The result of the election, the outspokenness of the new President and his immediate advisers about Axis ideas of international morality, and the adhesion to the cause of militant democracy of his erstwhile opponents like Mr. Wendell Willkie, gave us then reason to hope that, come what might, AMERICA would not see BRITAIN defeated without an effort to save her, and 'full American support' began to be confidently assumed, in spite of the great difficulties in front of the new administration.

Chiefly from this point onwards the critics of American behaviour begin their plaint. All this, they say, is now nine months ago–nine months of grave peril for us and the world, nine months of far fewer victories than setbacks, nine months of destruction of cities and villages and women and children and old people. We heard so much, they say, of the Neutrality Act, and the Lease and Lend Bill and "total help" and so on. Yet only a week ago the President broadcasts a wishy-washy sermon about nobody in AMERICA wanting war, for all the world as if, after the brave speeches of Mr. Cordell Hull and Colonel Knox, actual belligerency was as far off as ever from the U. S. A., whose coffers are to continue to swell with the proceeds of munitions sold to half a dozen combatants, while the British Navy keeps the seas for them.

This may be a somewhat exaggerated picture, because many realise that BRITAIN is really getting a tremendous lot of 'shopping facilities' in the States—extended credits, priority orders, production-planning and so on, to say nothing of the service AMERICA is doing in keeping the Japanese guessing. Nevertheless, there are many more people who think that the Americans are not only failing civilization but risking their own skins, by not immediately allying themselves with us in a combatant sense; or who demand at least that the U. S. A. Navy be used at once, offensively and defensively, against Hitler, even if the President's now old pledge that not a single American soldier should cross the seas to fight has to be observed.

It is to such that this paper is particularly addressed, in an attempt to show that that not only is AMERICA in the war on our side, but that she is in the war in the most useful and effective possible sense; to show what difficulties have already been overcome and material aid rendered; and to suggest that, if Mr. Winston Churchill and Mr. Franklin Roosevelt have not yet thought it time to blow bugles and wave flags all over AMERICA, we have reason to trust their judgment; and to suggest that a general call to arms there might seriously dislocate the very policy that Hitler dreads most, namely, the organisation of an inexhaustible arsenal for the Democracies in a country which is comparatively immune to dislocation by air-raid or U-boat campaign, by virtue of its self-sufficiency in natural resources.

Remembering, therefore, that, in times of crisis, it is obvious and natural that a country should look to its own security first, that AMERICA was as unready as any other decent Power when Hitler let loose his hell-hounds in Sep 39, and that she might at any time need two fleets instead of one, an army of defence, and the whole paraphernalia of air protection for herself, let us now summarise the mighty and still-growing effort she is making on behalf of Freedom and Honour for the peoples of the earth in general, and for the material assistance of BRITAIN in particular.

We tried to explain in our earlier lecture that AMERICA has several ways of showing the world what she would like, or is about to do; for instance, the 'inspired' publications of formal Press Conferences, public speeches by close political colleagues of the President, official broadcasts by the President himself, and, of course, the formal presentation of Bills in Congress. It is as well to remember once more that only the latter actually results in definite decisions which the Administration must carry out, and that, therefore, the opponents of Government, of popular leaders and of newspaper groups can carry the fight right up to the Senate, and can even then delay and amend and amend and delay almost *ad infinitum*. Hence the necessity for even so powerful a person as the President himself to make certain of enough weight of public opinion being behind his programmes to force his professional political opponents in Congress to bow to the nation's will, as he sees it.

Let us now examine the principal landmarks in the American war effort on behalf of the Democratic principle—for I think that Americans are more deeply affected by Hitler's blatant and bloody challenge to

established ideas of Liberty and Good Faith than they are by the plight of any particular country at war—and see how inevitably this is leading them to open and possibly belligerent alliance with the only nation which dared cry halt to Hitler's triumphant, awe-inspiring machine, namely, BRITAIN. We will not go further back than the Lease and Lend Act, though Mr. Cordell Hull's part in the Lima Conference, the formal emphasis constantly given to the sacredness of the Munro Doctrine, the amendment of the Neutrality Act and the embracing of GREENLAND in the Western Hemisphere, were among the previous warning signs displayed for the Axis benefit before the 'Help to BRITAIN' bill was drafted.

You will remember the clash of party-cries over the Election. In spite of the triumph of his bold anti-Axis platform, it was only on March 8 of this year that President Roosevelt and his Government managed to get the Lease and Lend Act passed. This far-reaching achievement was the first of several which illustrate the method of a very great politician. He adumbrates a policy; his colleagues, official or private, cross the 't's and dot the 'i's in speeches and broadcasts; American, as well as world, reactions are carefully noted, ann then there is a pause.........a pause until so many people are shouting to know why the President does not 'get on with it' that Mr. Roosevelt acts, and acts tremendously, generally on precisely the lines he first intended, but with the certainty and finality of a man expressing the nation's will. Those who whisper that the President has not sufficient drive, the Isolationists who have begun to raise their heads again, relapse, and the country contentedly follows their leader, saying "this was just what we said he ought to do all along!"

After the actual passage of the bill there was, characteristically, another seeming pause before the tremendous appropriations therein sanctioned began to be definitely placed. Mr. Roosevelt was making sure. Let us trace a few details of his method again.

First there was a spate of speeches by public men.

(i) Mayor La Guardia, Mr. Cordell Hull and Col. Knox all demanded that American ships should be ***CONVOYED***.

(ii) Mr. Roosevelt stated that the demand represented his own mind, ***but that, at the moment, he only proposed to extend the patrol system !***

(iii) Admiral Stark made speeches about the scope (and limitations!) of the patrol system.

(iv) Col. Lindberg having made an opposition speech, was so severely trounced that he had to resign his commission.

Result—the contrast between (i) and (ii) produced a demand for far stronger action by the President! A pro-Allies committee called the "Fight for Freedom Committee", seriously urged the employment of convoys. A group of newspaper editors demanded a lead from Mr. Roosevelt. Mr. Wendell Willkie called on Mr. Roosevelt "to give facts, and then a lead, instead of *following* public opinion".

The time, therefore, was ripening for the President to do something pretty big. You will see what that was in a minute. Meanwhile, do not think that all this time was wasted. Here are some of the things that were vigorously pressed on—in the background.

(i) 10 escort vessels and 20 motor torpedo boats were handed over to BRITAIN.

(ii) Congress passed a Two-Ocean Navy Bill—an enactment that might have taken *years* in normal times!

(iii) A Canadian-U. S. A. agreement was signed, allowing for the pooling of war production for BRITAIN and U. S. A., and the financing of CANADA's part of the scheme.

(iv) The Maritime Commission was asked by the President to find, somehow, 2,000,000 tons of shipping for all-out aid to the Democracies (to relieve British ships from carrying goods outside the war zone.)

(v) 50 oil tankers to be put in service between S. AMERICA and North-Atlantic ports, to relieve a similar number of British tankers hitherto so employed.

Then, suddenly, we get Roosevelt's surprising announcement that AMERICA's present national policy must be "to defend the Freedom of the Seas!" The phrase sounds familiar enough, but its implications should be examined to realise the profound significance to us and the Germans of the official adoption of such a policy. It meant :—

(i) Active resistance, wherever necessary, to the extension of Nazi domination to the Western Hemisphere, *or control of any seas or bases that might be used against the AMERICAS*

(ii) A pledge to ensure the safe delivery of material assistance to BRITAIN, whatever counter-action Hitler might attempt. AMERICA "would not hesitate to use our armed forces to repel an attack."

It may be also interesting to note the immediate events that Mr. Roosevelt used to fortify that decision. Admiral Raeder had just announced (when the VICHY pretences about SYRIA and French defeatism in general had been finally seen through by AMERICA) that "any American convoy system or naval aid to BRITAIN would constitute a plain act of war to which the German Navy will reply"; this bravado had been followed up by the risky despatch of the *Bismarck* and *Prince Eugen* into the Battle of the Atlantic; by increased activity on the Norwegian coast, and the apparent intention of the Germans to land in GREENLAND preparatory to an invasion of ICELAND. Mr. Roosevelt's answer to the challenge was satisfactorily unequivocal!

Lest any should think, however, that AMERICA's aid, since her first spurt mentioned above, has been merely a matter of gestures, here are some of the materialisations of the "help to BRITAIN" policy in the meanwhile:—

(i) The major part of the 7,500,000,000 dollars appropriation in the Lease and Lend Act, has, by this time been allocated: 550,000,000 dollars for shipyards and shipping construction; 880,000,000 dollars for Ordnance Stores; 318,000,000 for tanks and armoured vehicles.

(ii) 75,000,000 dollars worth of armaments and planes have already been delivered to BRITAIN.

(iii) 60 Allied merchant ships are being repaired, armed and equipped against mines, and facilities for the repairs of British warships in American ports provided.

(iv) As to British orders for aircraft accepted by American factories, deliveries up to end-May this year were *ten times* those of the same five months last year.

(v) The American patrol system, originally to watch a 300-mile 'territorial waters' has extended practically across the Atlantic—which is what the "1000 miles east of any American outpost" comes to mean,—plus instructions to those patrol-vessels to warn British ships of the approach of submarines or surface raiders.

(vi) 68 Axis ships in American ports were first 'seized' to prevent sabotage under Axis orders; then legislation was speedily passed through Congress to enable them to be used for national purposes, and to ply to BRITAIN under Panama Registry.

Satisfied of popular support later in the same month (May 28th) the President took a further step, sudden and of first importance. *He formally assumed all the powers of commander-in-chief of the armed forces of the country, latent under the constitution, and declared the country in a state of universal emergency.*

The fact is that the Democracies were nervous, and the Axis Powers confident, that owing to the complexity of political platforms and ideologies, and with the help of a huge Fifth Column all over both AMERICAS, anything like an unified national production effort could be seriously handicapped. Strikes during May in highly important motor works, naval yards, and mines, though sporadic, showed the danger of leaving disputes, contrived by *agents provocateurs,* to the normal channels of arbitration, and the President, once again sounding his public through the mouths of his official and social colleagues, took the bull by the horns. In a nutshell, he is using emergency powers to break strikes by force, if necessary, and the Senate has passed legislation permitting him to 'take over' war factories threatened with stoppage of work from any cause whatsoever.

Such measures as this are precisely what we, the fighting partners in this alliance, want. Astronomical statistics of American war potential will be seen not to be exaggerated. What industrial experts estimate as 'possible' will be 'actual' within the specified periods. Take **steel** for instance. "There is no doubt" said Mr. Tower, President of the Iron and Steel Institute, "that AMERICA alone can match ton for ton all the steel capacity of GERMANY and her stolen lands." And she will. By the end of May this year, she had already increased by 50%, to 76,000,000 tons, the finished steel output of the previous year, and with unified control this figure will be greatly multiplied. 80,000 tons of new **shipping** were completed, and 12 new ships actually launched in May alone. This year's programme is for one and a quarter million tons; next year for three and a half million; and 1943, five million tons. Figures like these, added to BRITAIN's own shipbuilding efforts *must* dismay the Great Pirate, whose hopes of

starving out (for lack of ships to carry their food and munitions) a nation which started with twenty million tons, and has since added from various neutral and friendly sources perhaps a quarter of that figure, at the rate—unhappy though it may be—of three million tons a year, fade dismally in face of AMERICA'S forthcoming effort.

The tale of aircraft in production and under delivery in AMERICA is equally encouraging. In April the production figure was 1,414 planes, for instance, a comparatively small figure, but 1,800 by July and 2,000 a month before the end of the year are confidently expected, while over 1,000 of the fine new "Tomahawks" have already been delivered to BRITAIN. Bombers are being flown direct to EGYPT *via* the West INDIES; "Catalina" aircraft helped to hunt down the *Bismarck*; and Glen Martin bombers and Tomahawk fighters have just done excellent work in SYRIA. Munitions of all kinds including tanks (a "faster and tougher tank has been put into production" lately) and artillery are being shipped in great quantities to BRITAIN or her war-fronts.

I have been at pains to give some detail of what AMERICA means by becoming 'the arsenal of the democracies' in order to substantiate my thesis that she is already our "Ally" in the most important sense. I have omitted such additional factors as the great swing-over in sentiment in favour of a people whom many Americans were apt to regard as opinionated, short-sighted and *passé*. This is important too, for just as the moral issues at stake have forced the Americans to take sides against Totalitarianism, so also have the calmness and courage of the British people under duress laid claim to their admiration and sympathy. The two English-speaking powers have never in their history been so close together sentimentally, and that sort of 'alliance' is stronger than most modern pacts, anyway!

POSTSCRIPT

And now, before I can finish this essay, comes the news that American troops have joined the British forces in the defensive occupation of ICELAND! This is 'alliance' with a vengeance. American 'outposts' now include an island a great deal further east than ever before, and the thousand-mile 'territorial water' of that outpost must pretty nearly reach LIVERPOOL! If Mr. Roosevelt also finds the AZORES and CANARY ISLANDS necessary for and amenable to "American security" in the same way, there will be very few left to complain that all the risks of war are being left to AMERICA's customers!

Remark, however, the statesmanship of Mr. Roosevelt's government. They are not yet combatant; their measures are defensive; they ring themselves round with a far and ever farther-flung ring of manned strongholds, between which their navies cruise and watch. Only if the marauder tries to 'rush the sentry' will he find himself 'at war' with AMERICA.

And have we any reason to complain? Should we wish a vast emporium, able to produce every sinew of the war in decisive quantities, and able at the same time to warn off (both from within and without), those who would tamper with a carefully thought-out and unified national effort to save Humanity, to dislocate her machinery and risk her security by flinging her man-power into EUROPE, or AFRICA, or the MIDDLE EAST? Yet that is what the critics of AMERICA demand, and—curiously enough—they have just received some notable support from the late Commander-in Chief in INDIA, who seems to have suggested the same thing in his first newspaper interview in CAIRO. Nevertheless, Mr. Roosevelt's Private Secretary, Mr. Stephen Early, seems to us to strike the right note when, asked what he thought of the General's demand for American man-power, he said that the last thing he had heard from LONDON was that Mr. Churchill had said 'give us the tools and we will finish the job', and that he presumed that the General was subordinate to Mr. Churchill!

And so say we! The reality of AMERICA'S 'alliance' with us and its method of fulfilment, has already forced Hitler into a tremendous change of plan. In his mad quest for world-domination, the original order in his programme (according to 'Mein Kampf') was the smashing of BRITAIN first, and then the conquest of RUSSIA. Now, we see, he has to try and capture his own 'arsenal' first, namely RUSSIA, with all her oil and grain and minerals, purely in order to cope with BRITAIN that has such an 'arsenal' as AMERICA behind her. AMERICA is 'doing her bit', and mighty thankful should we be for it!

APPENDIX.

CLOSING OF GERMAN CONSULATES IN U. S. ACTIVITIES TO WHICH AMERICA OBJECTED. BRITISH INFORMATION SERVICES.

by

Edward Montgomery (*In a recent B. B. C. Talk*).

NOT since the passage of the Lease and Lend Bill have I known any news from America received with more cheers in this country than the news of the order to close all German consulates and propaganda agencies throughout United States, announced in Washington by Mr. Sumner Welles.

For a long time now, those of us in Britain who watched the development of German methods of economic and political penetration into other countries, and who have heard from Frenchmen, Belgians, Dutchmen, Danes, and Norwegians first-hand stories of the activities of German propagandist and subversive organisations in their countries in preparing the ground for their eventual subjugation by attack and invasion, have wondered uneasily about those heavily over-staffed German consulates, and travel agencies and tourist bureaus scattered throughout the United States.

For in those countries it was always **the German consulates which were the centres of German political and propagandist activity**, directed at weakening the internal fabric of Government and creating disunity and unrest.

So that when each of the conquered countries in turn faced the final German assault on its independence, it discovered that its strength had been sapped and undermined beforehand from within, crippling its power and ability to defend itself.

Everywhere the German technique has been the same, and everywhere to-day **where you will find a German consulate or tourist agency or travel bureau, you will find a hornet's nest of intrigue, of conspiracy, espionage and sabotage.** You would think it would be easy to smoke out these hornet's nests, and it would be, were it not for an **ancient privilege** handed down from the days when nations occasionally behaved like gentlemen in their dealings with each other, and **known as "diplomatic immunity".**

The Germans took flagrant advantage of that customary privilege for the protection of their spies and political agents. By making all of them consuls or vice-consuls or assistant consuls or deputy consuls, they were able under

international custom to ensure for them immunity from arrest and to give them premises from which they could carry on their nefarious activities without risk of search by the police.

It also gave them the very useful privilege of communicating with each other and with the fatherland in code or in cypher. The Germans have consistently and everywhere exploited this diplomatic immunity racket to the uttermost.

Under cover of it they carried on their intrigues and subversive activities right under the noses of the Governments concerned, knowing that, so long as they were technically at peace with Germany, the governments could only look on helplessly.

It has remained for the United States to show that it is possible for a government to put a stop to this kind of thing on the part of the Germans, and still remain at peace with Germany, if the government is strong enough, and if the country it governs is strong and united behind the government.

That is not to deny that the Germans have been extremely clever in the way they have made use of their opportunities for dirty work. They have. Their propaganda is sometimes crude, sometimes painfully Teutonic and obvious, but often it is markedly subtle.

We tend to think too much of German propaganda as being merely the stuff that gushes out of Dr. Goebbels' enormous factory in Berlin via the news agencies, the radio and the German newspapers. It is often much more local than that.

Let me give you an example of what I mean. If I tell you over this radio, as an experienced newspaper man who has lived and worked in this country for 12 years, and who comes in daily contact with all sorts and conditions of English people, that there is about as much chance of the people of this country accepting a negotiated peace with Germany as the proverbial snowball in the place where Hitler ought to be, you may or you may not believe me.

But if Mr. Jones, from across the street, comes in and tells you he knows it for a fact that Britain is on her last legs, that Mr. Churchill is going to resign and that a new British government is going to be formed which will make peace with Germany, you will be inclined to believe him because you know him to be an honest man who would not deliberately deceive you.

He would not. But what you and Mr. Jones do not realise is that **Mr. Jones got that story from a man, who got it from another man, who got it**

from a man who was secretly on the pay roll of a German consulate, and who was snared by one of the brightest, suavest, Aryan vice-consuls to spread that story where it would do the most harm.

That is one of the ways the Germans work it, and if you do not believe it does work, just cast your mind back a week or ten days ago, and remember that hundreds of thousands of Americans, even some American newspapers, fell for just that propaganda story that I repeated to you, well backed up by whispers that that was why Mr. Winant had gone back to America to report to President Roosevelt, and that was why Hess had flown to Scotland, etc., etc.

All these whispers and rumours were of course originally started by Dr. Goebbels' bright boys in Berlin, but they were farmed out to the American people through the German consulates in 24 American key cities and ports.

And that is why we in England are very glad to hear that those consulates are being closed, and that all thoee consuls and vice-consuls and so on are expected to be out of America by July 10; which brings me right round to the question of Britain's own propaganda and information service.

This has been more in the news than usual lately, partly because of Sir Gerald Campbell's appointment as head of the reorganised British information service for the United States, and partly because the information itself is again the subject of considerable discussion in political circles in London.

British services of news and information, particularly to the United States, have often been very severely criticised, sometimes not without a fair amount of justification. But what I think the critics sometimes fail to appreciate sufficiently is that British propaganda lies under the same—I hesitate to call it a disability, because in some ways I think it is perhaps an advantage—but the same responsibility as British diplomacy and all the other branches of definite war effort.

That is, that Britain is fighting this war for certain fundamental principles of human rights and liberties, and she must fight the war by those principles. If those principles are worth fighting for at all, they cannot be abandoned even during the fighting.

This means, that Britain must fight accordiug to all the rules, even although her enemy may gain temporary advantages by breaking all the rules. This applies just as much in the war of words as in the war of bombs and shells.

The British in their propaganda cannot afford to lie, for the simple reason that lying and cheating and trickery are some of the things that Britain is fighting this war to abolish from relationships between nations as between individuals.

That is sometimes a temporary handicap when trying to compete with a government which knows no rules and no scruples, which will lie openly and unashamedly, knowing the lie will eventually be discovered but not caring in the least so long as the lie accomplishes its purpose.

Not a few of the difficulties which the Ministry of Information has encountered in its attempts to compete with Dr. Goebbels' highly organised propaganda machine are directly traceable to that inevitable handicap. That the machinery of British Information is capable of further improvement, I would not deny, but the point I would like to make is that in time of war some such machinery is vitally necessary.

The ordinary machinery of news agencies and newspapers and radio, financed by private enterprise, is incapable of dealing with the complex tasks and responsibilities involved in getting out to the world an adequate picture and description of a nation at war and the news of the progress of its war effort.

Critics have often accused Britain of being slow to realise the magnitude of those tasks and responsibilities, but that she is alive to them and is endeavouring to fulfil them, is evidenced by the efforts now being made in the United States to improve the British service there of news and information, and to improve tho service of the Ministry of Information here in London.

But there is another aspect of this, to which I, as an American, attach a great deal of importance. Owing not only to the efforts of the British Government, but to the enterprise of American news agencies and newspapers and radio companies, Americans, generally speaking, have a far better service of news and information about Britain than the British have about America.

British newspapers under wartime conditions cannot afford to maintain a large body of correspondents in America. Owing to restrictions on shipping space, newsprint has had to be rationed, until now most newspapers consist of only four pages, into which must be crammed the day's news of all the world.

Americans can get from London twice a day the latest news by radio from experienced broadcasting reporters on the two great American national chains. Britain can only get 15 to 20 minutes a week of Raymond Gram Swing or some other American commentator.

Even the imports of American periodicals and magazines have had to be curtailed on account of shipping space. I find among all classes of people in this country a hunger for news from America. People here want knowledge about America, because they realise that without knowledge understanding is difficult. It is a hunger that some means should be found of satisfying.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

10—7—41 to 16—7—41.

THE RUSSO-GERMAN WAR.

The Lull.—The week began with a 36-hour lull along the whole of the eastern front, which, as subsequent events have shown, was a prelude to a second *blitzkrieg* which the Germans launched on July 12 and is still continuing.

The Second Blitzkrieg.—In this fresh offensive the Nazis claim to have broken the Stalin Line, at all points and to be advancing on LENINGRAD and KIEV. But these reports are unconfirmed and even contradicted. On the other hand there is clear evidence that there has been no general Russian retreat: The Russians are everywhere checking, canalising and counter-attacking. They oppose the German thrust, by means of aerial combats against the German spearheads, and by interposing their infantry between the advancing German tanks and the enemy's infantry bringing up the rear.

The present situation.—According to the latest news from MOSCOW (July 16) the information is that heavy fighting continues in the directions of PSKOV and PORKHOV, VITEBSK and NOVGRAD-VOLYNSK.

Russian Tactics.—The Russians have developed and perfected their own tactics—Guerilla warfare is carried on everywhere behind the Nazi lines. Fortifications are camouflaged. Under Stalin's 'Scorched Earth' policy, everything is destroyed—gas, water, electricity—down to poultry which is poisoned. The Russian is a 'tough opponent'. He

rarely comes upon the enemy in large units. Singly or in small groups he pops up quickly and having dealt a mortal blow swiftly disappears. In this form of warfare, he has a natural ally in his impenetrable forests, into which he vanishes as quickly as he emerges from them.

The failure of the Blitzkrieg.—As observed in a Russian communiqué, the *Blitz* has been taken out of the *Blitzkrieg*. The Russian Air Force, in particular, has now forced the Panzer divisions to go slow, by 'more than half', having now to be supported by slow-moving anti-aircraft. Whole German divisions have been annihilated, with a total loss aggregating, till now, to a million men, 2,300 planes and some 3000 armoured cars. What is of more importance, the Russian armies, when compelled to withdraw, have retreated intact and in good order, without encirclement, and the civilian population, thanks to the discipline of the Russians, particularly the women, and the excellent organisation of the Railways, have evacuated without blocking the roads or creating any confusion such as hampered operations in FRANCE. In the Russian Campaign, which is one of vast distances and an extended battle-front, a retreat here or a retreat there, at a few points, is of no great consequence, provided the enemy's advance, as in the present instance, has been costly. The Russian strategy is to weaken the foe by retreating. It is a war of attrition.

Russian successes.—The Russians are also hitting back. The Red Army has inflicted a big defeat in the LEPEL sector and forced the enemy to retreat near SMOLENSK. The Russian Air Force is constanly raiding the Rumanian ports of CONSTANZA, SALINA and GALATZ, compelling the transfer of enemy shipping to Bulgarian ports. PLOESTI has also been shelled frequently, to the no small damage of the Rumanian oil industry.

German Anxiety.—There is growing anxiety to-day in GERMANY, which is due to several causes. Ever since the commencement of hostilities against RUSSIA there has sprung up a feeling that Hitler is dissipating in the east the man-power required against BRITAIN, and possibly, one day, in self-defence. The German estimates of British shipping losses are becoming known as palpably exaggerated. Following the devastating effects of the present British aerial bombing, fears are held that the Battle of GERMANY has begun, and that eventually the *Luftwaffe* will go down before the combined strength of the R. A. F. and the Soviet Air Force.

After three weeks of desperate fighting the results of the Russian Campaign are barren and 'success,' if any, has been costly. The German soldiers are reported to have become tired. What is still more fatal, the German people have become war-weary, victory-weary, listless and depressed. 'What is the use,' they ask, 'of these empty victories over FRANCE, or GREECE? We are no nearer the end—we are fighting ourselves dead to victory as we did in 1914?' They simply cannot 'take' the R. A. F. attacks. They see clearly that the U. S. is resolved to see the war through. There is a split in the Nazi camp. Hess has demoralised his countrymen. Hitler has quarrelled, calling Goering a coward. Goering, it is reported, has been given the choice of being confined to his house or sent to a sanatorium. It is also rumoured that Hitler has already another purge, on hand, this time perhaps bloodless.

The Anglo-Russian Agreement:—An agreement of far reaching importance, was concluded during the week between BRITAIN and RUSSIA, whereby the two great countries have agreed to 'assist and support' each other during the war, and not to conclude any separate peace or armistice, without mutual consent. It is in fact a military alliance, 'consecrating', as it were, 'the State of co-belligerency already existing'. As the *Daily Herald* has wisely pointed out, 'Hitler has suddenly presented us with the largest and second best equipped army in the world to fight on our side. Our physical power to resist and conquer has been gigantically strengthened, while new strategical and political possibilities are opened up to us that three weeks ago did not exist'.

The British Military Mission has already started work in Russia, and British instructors are tendering advice on the modern methods of combating the foe in aerial dog-fights, interception of bombers, anti-aircraft work and fire-fighting.

Germany—an International Outlaw.—In reply to a recent German request to allow free passage to German Hospital ships in the Baltic and Arctic Seas under the Hague Convention, RUSSIA has refused to give the permission, on the grounds that GERMANY will use the ships for military purposes, that Germans have themselves bombed Soviet Hospitals; and what is worse because of the "established fact" that GERMANY violates all International treaties and agreements.

Air-war on Germany.—A few weeks ago, when the Russo-German war broke out Mr. Churchill declared, "We shall bomb GERMANY by day and by night in ever-increasing measure." He has been as good as his word. Addressing a rally of Civil Defence Workers at Hyde Park on Monday he announced :—

"We have now intensified for the last month our systematic, scientific bombing on a large scale of German cities, seaports, industries and other military objectives.

"We believe it will be in our power to keep the process going, on a steadily rising tide, month after month, year after year, until the Nazi régime is either extricated by us, or better still, torn to pieces by the German people themselves.

"In the last few weeks alone, we have thrown upon GERMANY about half the tonnage of bombs thrown by the Germans upon our cities during the whole course of the war. But this is only the beginning. We hope by next July to multiply our deliveries manyfold."

During the last three weeks there have been as many as a hundred and thirty raids conducted with clock-like regularity over 50 places—all of them military objectives, armament and steel works, oil production factories and, vital centres of communications and supplies, necessitating in some cases the removal of certain industries to remote centres in AUSTRIA and POLAND. German industrial production has dropped by 30%. It has been stated that the fate of the RUHR which produces 70% of German coal and steel is the fate of GERMANY. There is no doubt that the hammer blows of the R. A. F. on the RUHR have seriously endangered the German war effort of late.

Some Nazi cities frequently attacked by the R. A. F. have resorted to camouflage to escape the staggering blows. In HAMBURG the main railway station has been disguised to look like a hill with grass and trees. The Binnenaster Lake has been covered with planks, over which houses have been erected in order to give the water the appearance of a city.

In BLOHM and VOSS the U-boat Construction Bureau has been burnt out and the warehouses have been removed inland. KIEL and EMDEN have suffered even more.

For the fourth successive week, the enemy's air losses have been over a century, the figures for the last week being 134, 22 over BRITAIN, 82 over GERMANY and occupied territories, and 30 (VICHY and AXIS) in the MIDDLE EAST.

THE SYRIAN ARMISTICE.

The minor war in SYRIA is now happily at an end, but not, owing to vacillation on the part of VICHY, before DAMUR, KAMECHLI, DENUR KAPON, MAZRAAT et CHOUF and MROUSTI had been taken during the week, and BEIRUT itself had been threatened with bombing. At last, on Friday (11th) night, exactly 34 days after the British forces had crossed the Syrian frontier, General Dentz asked for an armistice. When the British terms were communicated, VICHY under pressure from BERLIN rejected them, on the ground that they included a recognition, *de facto*, of the Free French movement, while at the same time, possibly encouraged by the German rebuff in RUSSIA, and out of force of circumstances, it gave a 'free-hand' to General Dentz to deal with the British terms according to 'military necessity.'

The Armistice Pact with its 22 points was finally initialled at ACRE on the 13th showing every consideration to the enemy. General Dentz and his forces will be treated with all the courtesy due to an honourable beaten foe. French troops and nationals will be given the option to join the Allies or be repatriated, and in the latter case will also be allowed to leave by sea in French transports. All military materials must be surrendered.

As Mr. Churchill has so happily phrased it, 'a military convention' has thus been signed, in a cordial spirit on both sides, putting an end to the fratricidal strife between Frenchmen and Frenchmen, and also between French, and British, Australian and Indian soldiers all of whom drew the sword of their own free will to defend the soil of FRANCE'. The infiltration of the Germans through VICHY subservience has thus been brought to an end, with promise of sovereignty and independence to SYRIA and LEBANON, without prejudice to the real interests of FRANCE, and with a distinct improvement in the whole military situation in the MIDDLE EAST, establishing British control over the region up to the Turkish frontier.

'What crowns the convention', observes the *Daily Telegraph*, is its 'character', which places perfect reliance on the good faith of the

parties, and adds:—'It is impossible to imagine such a convention between ourselves and the Nazis, who can never be trusted to keep their undertakings!'

WAR AT SEA.

There is good news this week of the Battle of the Atlantic. The Admiralty announces a big fall in the shipping losses in June, which total only 79 ships of 329,296 tons. These figures are less than those for May by 25 ships and 168,551 tons. Of these 79 ships 52 are British, 19 Allied and 8 neutral.

The British Admiralty has further announced that it is no longer going to oblige the enemy by publishing a monthly account of the losses. It gives away valuable information. Information will however be supplied from time to time as considered necessary.

British attacks on enemy shipping have been intensified of late. During the week ended July 7, 37 enemy ships totalling 105,000 tons were 'gravely damaged'. Two Italian Cruisers were torpedoed, one sunk and the other crippled; BEIRUT and BENGHAZI were attacked six times, while aircraft of the Bomber command have ranged over the North Sea, the coasts of North-west GERMANY, HOLLAND, BELGIUM and FRANCE.

AMERICAN AID TO BRITAIN NOT SLOW.

The following extract from the *News Chronicle* summarises the extent of American aid to BRITAIN. It shows how step by step the tempo has increased from non-intervention to active valuable help:—

"In the 22 months of this war, which began with so violent a feeling here against intervention that BRITAIN was prevented from buying arms or obtaining loans of any description from AMERICA, these things have happened:

The ban on arms has gone, and America has furnished seven billion dollars with which to lend and lease—not sell—to BRITAIN every description of war supplies to the limit of her constantly increasing capacity.

The President is saying not "It must be peace without victory," but "We will not accept a Hitler-dominated world," "We will give Britain our utmost aid" and "We must pledge our work, our will and, if necessary, our very lives."

Instead of receiving German submarines as visitors, the American Navy is 2,000 miles out at sea spotting German submarines and radioing their positions, and the Secretary of the Navy is proposing that UNITED STATES' warships should clear the Germans from the Atlantic.

AMERICA has had conscription for ten months, and possesses now an army of about one and a half million.

AMERICA has traded to us 50 destroyers from her strong modern navy, which has a tremendous new building programme behind it.

The American arms industry, with six billion dollars already spent on it and billions more to come, is beginning now to hit its stride.

AMERICA is providing us with many tons of shipping monthly, and has, at this instant, under construction more new merchant tonnage than was being built in the UNITED STATES at the end of 1917 after the country had been at war for nine months.

AMERICA has seized German ships, impounded German funds, and cleared out the German Consuls.

There must be a word to describe the momentum America has developed in these 22 months, but the word is not 'slow'."

'**July Fourteenth**'. July 14, the day of the storming of the Bastille, hitherto celebrated by Frenchmen with rejoicings was observed in VICHY FRANCE this year as a day of mourning, under Petain's orders, "to think of the dead, its prisoners and its ruins." Free FRANCE, on the other hand celebrated it as a féte day of faith and national hope.

In a message that Mr. Churchill sent to General de Gaulle on this occasion he stated: "The soul of FRANCE can never die, and the spirit of the French people will rise again from all ruin and misery, purified and rejuvenated by what it has undergone."

INDIA'S WAR EFFORT.

Speaking at CALCUTTA on July 12, Mr. M. S. A. Hydari, representative of INDIA on the Eastern Group Supply Council, observed that INDIA was now producing three-fourths of the requirements of the forces, including textiles, and all kinds of engineering stores from bridges to bolts, guns, ammunition, armour plates, medical stores, chemicals and

tyres. In addition to this she was building small ships like mine-sweepers and submarine chasers. Taking a long view of things he added that this war effort, far from being ephemeral, would build up the 'arts of peace' in INDIA in future. 'Modern warfare required articles of the highest craftsmanship. It was not only high-scale production but highly skilled production. The Indian workman would come out of this war probably a higher skilled technician than he had been before the war broke-out.'

R. A. F. and Russian Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied Territories.

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
7—7—41. (Monday).			
	(By R. A. F. planes.)		
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	DAY :—		
	Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE and North-west GERMANY.	No loss.	......
	NIGHT :—		
	Aircraft works at MEAULTE ...	...	Heavily damaged.
	A power station and a Chemical factory near BETHUNES.	3 planes 2 pilots safe.	Set on fire, 7 planes.
	A strongly escorted convoy of eight ships off the DUTCH Coast.	...	6 ships hit, 1 ship and an E-boat sunk.
	Another convoy near CALAIS ...	4 planes	......
	SYRIA.		
	The harbour and shipping at BEIRUT.	...	......
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	Enemy aircraft on the ground at GAMBUT.	...	6 planes set on fire.
	Enemy camps in the vicinity of GAMBUT.	...	Machine-gunned.
	The harbour at BENGHAZI ...	...	Explosions followed fire.
	Landing grounds at DERNA, MARTUBA and GAZALA.	4 planes.	......
	Military targets at BARDIA ...	...	......

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
7—7—41.	**(Monday.)**—*cont.*		
	(By Russian Planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Military objectives and enemy aerodromes behind the German lines.	10 planes.	102 planes.
8—7—41.	**(Tuesday.)**		
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	DAY :—		
	Offensive sweep over the English CHANNEL and Northern FRANCE.	7 planes.	11 planes.
	The power station and Chemical works at LILLE.	...	......
	AFTERNOON :—		
	The naval base at WILHELMSHAVEN.	No loss.	Damaged.
	NIGHT :—		
	The town and Railway yards at HAMM.	...	...
	MUNSTER and **BIELFELD** ...	...	Set on fire.
	A Synthetic oil plant at LEUNA ...	...	Set on fire.
	The harbour at HAUGESUND ...	...	...
	Shipping on the North and West coast of FRANCE.	...	Many damaged.
	An aerodrome in Northern FRANCE.	7 planes.	...
	SYRIA.		
	The railway station at ALEPPO ...	...	Buildings damaged.
	Oil plants at BEIRUT ...	...	Set on fire.
	VICHY flying boats off the SYRIAN coast.	...	Many damaged.
	An aerodrome at BAALBECK ...	...	...
	Aircraft on the ground at TALIA ...	No loss.	3 planes.
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The harbour at BENGHAZI ...	...	...
	Landing grounds at DERNA, MARTUBA, ELTMIMI and GAZALA.	1 plane.	...
	(By Russian planes.)		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy tank and motorised units in the War Front.	7 planes.	62 planes. Many damaged.

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
9—7—41. (Wednesday.)			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
DAY :—			
	The synthetic oil plant at LEUNA ...	...	Set on fire.
	HALLE and BIELFELD ...	...	...
	The great railway system at HAMM ...	...	Explosions and fires started.
	Offensive sweep over Northern FRANCE.	8 planes.	26 planes.
NIGHT :—			
	The coal centre of AACHEN ...	...	...
	Railway lines and the station at MUNSTER.	...	Damaged.
	The Power station near BETHUNE ...	...	...
	Industries and communications at OSNABRUCK.	...	...
	The Docks at OSTEND ...	4 planes.	...
	ITALY.		
	The harbour at NAPLES ...	...	...
	SICILY.		
	Italian float planes at SYRACUSE ...	...	3 planes burnt and many damaged.
	Aerial fights over the SICILIAN coasts.	No loss.	Many planes damaged.
	SYRIA.		
	Aircraft on the ground at ALEPPO ...	...	2 planes destroyed; 10 others damaged.
	Armoured cars near BEIRUT and in the DAMOUR area.	...	...
	Ammunition stocks at BEIRUT ...	...	Burnt out.
	The Railway siding at RAYAK ...	...	...
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	Enemy aeroplanes at MARTUBA and GAZALA.	...	...
	(By Russian planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	The Black Sea port of CONSTANZA ...	1 plane.	7 planes.
	Transports at TULCEA and SULINA ...	...	...
	The oil fields at PLOESTI ...	...	...

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
10—7—41. (Thursday).			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	DAY :—		
	Six enemy ships (totalling 30,000 tons) in the ports of CHERBOURG and HAVRE.	...	All the six ships sunk.
	Chemical works at CHOQUES near BETHUNE.	12 planes.	12 planes.
	NIGHT :—		
	German-occupied channel ports on the eastern side of the ENGLISH CHANNEL.	...	Pounded.
	Heavy Industries at COLOGNE and at many places in RHINELAND.	9 planes.	16 planes.
	ITALY.		
	The Naval Base at NAPLES ...	...	...
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The harbour at BENGHAZI ...	...	A mass of flame.
	Landing grounds at DERNA, MARTUBA, GAZALA and ELTMIMI.	...	...
	(By Russian Planes.)		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy armoured units in the OSTROV and NOVOGRAD-VOLYNSK sector.	...	...
	Enemy troops in Western DVINA ...	...	...
	Aerial combats over the battle zone.	9 planes.	58 planes.
11—7—41. (Friday.)			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	MORNING :—		
	The French Channel ports of CALAIS, BOULOGNE, DUNKIRK and OSTEND	...	...
	AFTERNOON :—		
	Offensive sweep over Northern FRANCE.	...	6 planes.
	Railway yards at HAZEBROUCK. ...	...	...
	NIGHT :—		
	A Naval Base at WILHELMSHAVEN...	...	...
	A mine-sweeper off the North-west coast of FRANCE.	No loss.	Set on fire.

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
11—7—41.	(Friday)—*cont.*		
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The Naval Base at BENGHAZI ...	...	...
	The Aerodrome at DERNA ...	...	...
	(By Russian Planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy Mechanisd units, aircraft on aerodromes and Aerodromes on the whole front.	...	...
	PLOESTI ...	...	...
12—7—41.	**(Saturday.)**		
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	MORNING :— **Railway and canal communications** near ST. OMER. **AFTERNOON :—** **Offensive sweep** over Northern FRANCE.	... 2 planes.	... 6 planes.
	Enemy shipping off the DUTCH coast.	...	...
	Gun emplacements on the Island of WALCHEREN.	1 plane.	...
	NIGHT :—		
	Industrial areas and ship building yards in BREMEN.	...	Fires started.
	Industrial objectives in North-west GERMANY.	...	...
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The Aerodromes at RHODES and CALATO.	...	Fires and explosions started.
	Aerodrome, buildings and hangars at MARITZA.	...	Many planes damaged.
	The Aerodrome at KATAVIA ...	...	...
	Aerial duel off the LIBYAN coast ...	...	1 plane.
	(By Russian planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Mechanised units and aerodromes throughout the whole front.	131 planes.	...

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
13—7—41. (Sunday.)			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	DAY :—		
	Offensive sweep over Northern FRANCE.	...	...
	NIGHT :—		
	Industrial areas at BREMEN and VEGESACK.	...	...
	Docks at AMSTERDAM and OSTEND...	...	...
	Oil storage tanks at ROTTERDAM ...	...	Set on fire.
	Enemy aerodromes in Northern FRANCE.	1 plane.	...
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The harbour at BENGHAZI	...	...
	Aerodromes in CYRENAICA	...	...
	An Enemy convoy outside TRIPOLI	...	...
	(By the Russian planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy troops, tanks and aerodromes over the battle front.	...	...
	Aerial fights over many places	...	...
	JASSY and **PLOESTI.**	12 planes.	94 planes.

ENEMY Air Raids over BRITAIN, BRITISH Territories and RUSSIA.

Date.	Targets.	Enemy aircraft losses.	R.A.F. and Allied Air losses and results of air bombardment.
8—7—41. (Tuesday).			
	BRITAIN.		
	DAY :—		
	Isle of WIGHT ...	2 planes.	No loss.
	NIGHT :—		
	A few places in the MIDLANDS and southern half of ENGLAND.	...	Slight damage and a few casualties.
	A Town in East ANGLIA ...	...	...
	A lone plane in SCOTLAND ...	5 planes.	No loss.

Date.	Targets.	Enemy air-craft losses.	R.A.F. and Allied Air losses and results of air bombardment.
8—7—41. (Tuesday.)—*cont.*	**MEDITERRANEAN.**		
	CYPRUS ...	...	1 plane. A few civilians killed.
	MALTA ...	1 plane.	No damage.
9—7—41. (Wednesday.)	**BRITAIN.**		
	NIGHT :—		
	A few places in South-east SCOTLAND.	...	Damage very slight and only a few casualties.
	A farm in North ENGLAND ...	...	
	A Village in East ANGLIA ...	4 planes.	No. loss.
	RUSSIA.		
	Russian position and Aerodromes in all the main War Sectors.	...	......
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	MALTA ...	...	......
10—7—41. (Thursday.)	**BRITAIN.**		
	NIGHT :—		
	A few points in East and North-east ENGLAND.	2 planes.	A few killed and slight damage.
11—7—41. (Friday.)	**BRITAIN.**		
	NIGHT :—		
	A place in North-east SCOTLAND ...	...	No damage, only a few casualties.
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	MALTA ...	3 planes, may more damaged	......
	RUSSIA.		
	Russian positions in POLAND ...	...	......
12—7—41. (Saturday.)	**BRITAIN.**		
	NIGHT :—		
	A few points in South-west and East of ENGLAND.	...	No damage or casualties.
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	The port of FAMAGUSTA (in CYPRUS)	...	Only slight damage.
	EGYPT.		
	SUEZ Canal area	...	Slightly damaged.

Date.	Targets.	Enemy air-craft losses.	R.A.F. and Allied Air losses and results of air bombardment.
13—7—41. (Sunday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
DAY :—			
	A point in the west of ENGLAND	...	Some people injured.
NIGHT :—			
	A few places in South-east and West ENGLAND.	2 planes.	...
	EGYPT.		
	SUEZ Canal area	...	Slight damage.
	RUSSIA.		
	Neighbourhood of LENINGRAD and SMOLENSK.	...	...
	Military objectives at KIEV	...	...
14—7—41. (Monday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
DAY :—			
	A train in the HOME COUNTIES	...	...
	A place in East coast of SCOTLAND	2 planes.	No damage.
NIGHT :—			
	A coastal town in South-east ENGLAND.	...	Slight damage and a few casualties.
	A few other places in the MIDLANDS.	...	...
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	GIBRALTAR ...	...	Driven away.
	CYPRUS ...	...	No damage at all.

SIDE LIGHTS.

R. A. F. ASCENDANCY. Our weekly statistics in this Bulletin show that we lost rather more planes of all sorts than the enemy last week, but this does not need a lot of explaining. We have had many more planes in the air daily than the enemy liked to risk; and we took infinitely bigger chances and did infinitely more damage in GERMANY and Northern FRANCE, and on the coastal seas, than the *Luftwaffe* did to us.

Moreover, the recent intensification of our night attacks, and of our daylight sweeps do not appear to be merely opportunist moves resulting from the departure of the greater part of the *Luftwaffe* to Eastern EUROPE. They are much more the magnifying of the steady, long-term policy which the R. A. F. initiated as soon as they had breathing space from the 'invasion', namely the pulverisation of the enemy's war machine. That 'pulverisation' is *le mot juste*, is proved by the matter-of-fact reports from the Air Ministry over the last ten days, and incidentally by a neutral observer in LISBON, who told *Reuter* on July 11 that "there is real anxiety in GERMANY to-day, owing to the devastating material and moral effects of the British bombing, and the fear that it would increase in intensity". A Home technical aviation journal is perhaps a bit premature with its dictum that "the *Luftwaffe* is as good as beaten", but it can't be entirely wishful thinking.

* * * * *

SOMETHING TO BITE ON. We have often warned readers against over-optimism ; so here are a few reasons for the gratificatory tone of the foregoing paragraph.

(i) The frequency of the daylight sweeps are a logical development of the big night raids. Coastal shipping is the alternative forced on the Germans by the dislocation of their inland communications—and a pretty expensive alternative it is proving.

(ii) The enemy's shyness after dark—there have only been two vicious raids over BRITAIN in a fortnight—may just as fairly be put down to our success with "radio-location" (recently admitted officially) and the very heavy losses inflicted on the *Luftwaffe* over BRITAIN in May, as to the diversion of squadrons to the Russian front. Before that, he had certainly begun to send far fewer numbers over us, and even then we took a steady toll of them.

(iii) The daylight 'sweeps' over the Channel and Northern French ports with fast bombers attacking objectives inland, while large fighter escorts scour the skies for enemy fighters—and destroy them in the ratio of five to one—were tactics already succeeding before the Russo-German war. We had also removed the air 'front' first from BRITAIN to the Channel, then from the Channel to industrial FRANCE, and then from FRANCE to North-west GERMANY.

None of these are fortuitous effects of the enemy's preoccupations elsewhere, but the result of several definite factors. The Nazis were defeated over ENGLAND last year—the new British fighter planes, especially the 'Hurricane' and 'Spitfire' are the terrors of the *Luftwaffe*—the morale and

efficiency of the R. A. F. personnel has no match in the *Luftwaffe*—and a very large number of new British fighter squadrons has been brought into commission in recent months. We therefore repeat with confidence, 'that mastery of the air' is no longer a distant dream for us—it is well on the way to realisation.

* * * *

HITLER IN A PANIC. Like the gambling financier who piles one company on to another while there are profits to attract an unwary public, but has to watch the whole erection collapse when stressful times affect one or another of his creations, so Hitler, with his attack on RUSSIA lifting the war from a European to a world plane, confesses *ipso facto* that to consolidate his European tyranny nothing less tnan world-domination is any use. The Germanic system will not stand a long siege; Hitler must become master of the world at lightning speed or else suffer a catastrophe; he has therefore crossed the threshold of RUSSIA--his only alternative following the failure to invade BRITAIN—and cannot stop until he has overrun it, or been defeated. This it is that explains both his military movements and his diplomacy in recent months. He made his pact with TURKEY to guard his southern flank, in case his economic, political and fifth-column agencies failed to coerce Stalin—and fail they did. They failed because Stalin *could* not renounce the principles of the revolution that gave him power, without losing that power, and though possibly what he might have consented to in the matter of supplies was considerable, it was not enough for Hitler, who exhibited his megalomania by launching a huge offensive without giving his victim the 'option of a fine'. It is probably the greatest gamble against time that the world has ever known—and seeing that to-day's papers can report that there is a general hold-up of the whole offensive from the Arctic to the Black Sea after three weeks of grim fighting, it looks as if the odds against the gambler have greatly lengthened.

* * *

THE GLAMOROUS BUBBLE. Since "Mein Kampf" no one is likely to accuse Hitler of not being able to 'think big'. It may be salutary for us Non-Axis people to visualise our situation should Hitler's Russian gamble come off in spite of present probabilities. Perhaps we are at the moment inclined to lay too much stress on the *immediate* threat in such an event to INDIA. To recover from the effort involved in the conquest of RUSSIA, and then to put in hand plans for an even longer and more hazardous expedition south and east, would take even the Germans many months, probably years. Nevertheless, unless we all put our backs into the war-effort now, and keep the Huns away from our most distant gateways, war with all its horrors *will* be on us some time, if Hitler manages to solidify the bubbles he is now blowing.

You will admit that their colours are attractive! With victory in RUSSIA (?) 225 complete divisions, with 14 armoured divisions, would then be free to strike west against BRITAIN, or south, through IRAN and IRAQ, against SUEZ and INDIA. The U.S.S.R. would have been broken up into its old component parts under puppet régimes; a vast reservoir of 'Slave' (forgive the obvious pun) labour would have been acquired to work the wheat and the timber and the oil of RUSSIA, for German ends; and with EUROPE in his hands from VLADIVOSTOK to the Bay of Biscay, Hitler would be in a seemingly impregnable position.

* * * * *

AND A NIGHTMARE PEACE! All this acomplished, Hitler would set about his 'reasonable peace'! Hemispheric hegemony would be the simple basis—AMERICA for the Americans, EUROPE (and, we suppose, a fair slice of AFRICA) for the Nazi New Order, and the Far East and South Pacific for JAPAN. Commanding the markets of three continents (with prices made more than competitive by forced labour) Hitler's remaining opponents, GREAT BRITAIN, AMERICA, and our Dominions, would then have the pleasing alternative of economic ruin, or coming to terms with their enemy. A pretty idea, isn't it ?!

* * *

NEVER !!! First, some pins that may prick the bubble :—

(i) With the greatly-growing American effort, and our air-hammering of his production-machine, Hitler has got to win the war with RUSSIA before this winter,—and the approaches into RUSSIA, and the interior of the country are only sufficiently dry for big mechanised operations during summer!

(ii) There are already well-snbstantiated stories of the difficulties the Germans are having in the already 'occupied' countries. To 'occupy' RUSSIA's millions of square miles efficiently will require a policing and administrating effort hitherto uncontemplated.

(iii) Should such administration be inadequate, rebellion will be a common phenomenon. It will be so frequent and widespread that huge German armies of occupation, and practically war-conditions, will be necessary.

(iv) The burden on the German people at home, themselves under the ever-increasing menace of the R. A. F. must become well-nigh intolerable.

These are only some of the snags in Hitler's scheme. But for Heaven's sake, don't let us merely sit back and contemplate them! Every nation and every man *must* realise that however fantastic, Hitler's ideas *are* a grave menace to civilization—that there *is* serious danger even to us in INDIA—and that in these days there is little force in the argument that because Hitler is attempting something that defeated Napoleon and every other megalomaniac before him, he must fail merely because of an analogy. From every free nation and man a concerted and unprecedented effort is now demanded. If we don't make it, Hitler may be in a dominant position before this year is out; if we do, he may be well on the way to destruction.

BRITAIN'S PARACHUTE ARM. HOW SHOCK TROOPS ARE TRAINED. TRAINING SHARED BETWEEN ARMY AND R. A. F.

by

Wing Commander L. V. Fraser.

Britain is building up a formidable arm of shock troops. These parachute troops are finishing their instruction. They are tough specialists, true sons of the men who less than 25 years ago were fighting across the waterlogged country in the barbed wire, gas and machine-gun-infested no-man's-land, to get within bayonet's length of the same enemy. Italy has already had a foretaste of British parachute troops. They were carried in R. A. F. aircraft. The flights were long, and made by night over hostile territory and in unfavourable weather. The destination was no more than a pin-point on the map, but the aircraft ran smoothly to schedule, and the troops sang a mocking song for the jackal dictator: "Oh! We have a surprise for the Duce, the Duce" before they floated down to do their work.

Training is intense, and selection from eager volunteers is exacting. A good stocky figure is essential, together with the natural qualities of a good soldier: courage, high morale, tenacity and fighting ability. When a recruit is accepted he undergoes special training, emerging so fit as to be prepared for battle with the enemy under any conditions. Clothing, arms and equipment, including special boots and tommy-guns, are designed for the job.

Every man is first familiarised with aircraft. Initial parachute descents are made solo, later the air-borne troops work as a whole. The aircraft may be travelling at two miles a minute when the jumps begin. An interval of only

one second might separate troops by 200 yards. Speed in getting clear is imperative, and once on the ground swift and concerted action is essential. As heavy arms and equipment are dropped separately in special containers, assembly into fully armed parties would be doubly difficult, were it not for an automatic device, which controls the opening of the parachutes, and allows the men to leave the aircraft at intervals of a fraction of a second. They are protected from fouling the aircraft by overalls worn outside everything but the parachute harness.

Training is shared between the army and the Royal Air Force, the one to familiarise the troops with the fighting technique, and the other to make them air-minded. The Royal Air Force produces flying equipment and aircraft, and instructs the men in jumping. The army supplies the men themselves, their arms and their instruction in ground fighting and tactical training. In practice the Royal Air Force assumes responsibility from the moment of take-off to the time the objective is reached and the descent begins.

Piloting is a difficult and precise task. The exact point on the map must be found with absolute precision. Then military training comes into effect. When qualified, parachute troops wear a distinguishing badge—a white parachute between blue soaring wings.

Everything that is known of parachute operations has been incorporated in their training, and they have some tricks of their own which will be produced at the right moment. What Germany has developed from the first Russian experiments ten years ago has all gone into the experience. Early German attempts were tentative and experimental. Successes were not great in Norway, but the experience proved useful in a more successful attack on Holland. There parachute troops took points ahead of the main forces acting as an advance guard until reinforcements arrived in JU-52 troop-carriers. About 2,000 were used, and they were aided by a well-organised mass of Fifth Columnists. Since then they have worked unceasingly to perfect their technique, using such forces as the spearhead of an attack regardless of losses. In Crete the principle was still further exploited. German casualties in personnel and aircraft were high, but the island was taken due largely to the known fact that it was not possible to bring a sufficient force of fighter aircraft into operation against the air-borne army. Whether the losses merited the efforts is for later reckoning. Should the same tactics be employed against Great Britain, with a powerful fighter force to engage troop-carriers and gliders, the German losses must inevitably be high.

This development may easily prove to be a two-edged sword. The striking power of Britain's flying column grows.

FUNCTIONS OF BOMBER AND FIGHTER AIRCRAFT.

[*A recent Broadcast by Air Commodore* **A. Claud Wright, A. F. C.**, *from Simla.*]

This is the last of a series of talks on the Indian Air Force. You heard first how civil aviation has devoted all the facilities of the peace time flying clubs to schools for the fledging pilot, nursing him through those early trying stages before he flies by himself—such a lonely ordeal—until he gains confidence, and how they by organising schools all over the country have laid the foundation of mechanical knowledge in the men who have to look after the aircraft.

You have heard too how both pilot and machanic begin their service training. How pilots and observers pass through the Officers' Initial Training School where they learn to know that their bodies must be fit and hard, ready to meet the arduous tests of their new life in the air, and how they must train their brains to habits of quick decision and precise thought, and learn to serve so that they become fit for leadership.

Then to the Service Flying Training School, where they learn to fly with accuracy until piloting becomes almost second nature, how to reach their destination in spite of the vagaries of wind, and how to look after their war machines. They learn the secrets of their guns and how to fire them, the purpose of the bomb, and how and when to release it with accuracy on its target.

They learn the value of team work between the pilot and his crew. They acquire the essential habit of self-reliance—they develop initiative, and above all that quiet confidence which will give them success.

Last week you were told of the service training of the mechanics, the men whose skill, hand-work and patience ensure that every part of the aeroplane and its multitude of accessories and instruments are working perfectly.

On that depends the lives of the crews, the fulfilment of their purpose. Above all, their faithful work gives to the flying crews a background of confidence, so that the one thing they do not worry about is the soundness of the aeroplane they fly.

The piece is set—the actors trained and in their places—the previous speakers have read the prologue—and I am now to tell you of the part these officers and men will play should they serve in Bombers and Fighters. I might tell you of their work in co-operation with the Army. Certain

squadrons specialise in this work and many serve already. For the sake of simplicity let us consider the bomber and the fighter, and take a scene in turn from the life of both.

The Bomber pilot and crew have been ordered to bomb a certain target. They have worked out the distance, and obtained a weather report along the route and noted the wind. The pilot has seen the maintenance report of his aircraft and tested his engines—checked over his guns and the loading of the bombs.

The Air Observer has marked his maps, and studied the country to fly over, and checked over the bombsights, camera, etc., and the Wireless Operator has checked his gun turret, his guns and tested his wireless. All three proceed to the Operations Room.

Their young Squadron Commander gives them their detailed task—" We have to be over our target at 10·00 hours—set your watches as we are part of a big attack and must be punctual . Here is the target—20 miles due east of the turn in the river. The anti-aircraft is pretty hot so " C " Flight will approach at 10,000'—the other two will dive down—" A " Flight leading from east and " B " Flight from the north, from behind these hills. Here is the photograph of the target, and it is the low flat building 400 yards east of the chimney we have to hit—not the barracks. It is too small to take in formation, so we go in singly. Don't forget to break away smartly and rejoin " C " Flight over the wood. Save your ammunition on the way as we have a fighter escort, but keep close on the way back. Any questions ?"

Good fellow the Squadron Leader—knows his own mind and as clever as a load of monkeys in getting away once the job is done.

The crews then climb into their aircraft—named " BOMBAY " by the way—and adjust their flying clothing. Compasses are set : each makes a final check and then a report on the internal telephone to the pilot that all is ready. A final run up of the engines, and following the leader they taxi out to their places on the runway.

There goes the Squadron Leader's signal and they are off—climbing steadily on their course. Soon they test their oxygen supply—8,000 feet, 10,000 feet through clouds—when they open out a bit—and finally at 25,000 are set on their course, cruising steady.

The air is sparkingly clear. The cloud far below is a white rolling plain, with here and there, as it were, a pool through which the land appears mistily below. Passing over these gaps, the Observer who is responsible for the navigation of his aircraft checks his position, and records it in his log.

Each of the crew automatically scans his allotted sector of the sky for enemy fighters, and so passos two hours of watchfulness, and calculation.

Suddenly in the pilot's microphone the voice of the Squadron Leader— "Enemy fighters half a mile above and to starboard—alter course to 40 degrees and down to the clouds." Quite a shock in that droning world of apparent peace! Down they go; then another voice—that of the controlling air gunner— "Hold your fire until they are 600 yards". Then white mists rush past, but they can still see the other aircraft. A voice—"B Flight change course 4 degrees starboard for two minutes and hold it at 10,000 feet". They hold it for ten minutes in the greyness of the clouds, and then tucked in close to their leaders they slowly lose height—the white scudding cloud disappears and they see the enemy country.

A brief comparison with their maps, just to make sure they are on their track and the leader says "Open to 250 miles per hour." Time is getting short. There is the river like a silver snake writhing among the patch-work of the country-side.

At last there is the bend, unmistakable. Again the Commanding Officer's voice in the microphone gives the order "Disperse." "C" Flight seems to leap upwards and "B" follows "A"—all aircraft knitted close together rhythmically jinking from side to side, as mysterious black puffs of smoke, the size of a cottage, leap at them.

Yes, the enemy's A. A. is hot! "A" Flight swings to the south and "B" Flight, our flight, dives for the ridge of hills which now take shape, and swings to the north.

There is the factory—a broad layout like dominoes on a green table, but splashed with camouflage colour. The Observer slides into his bombing position ready to release.

Where is the flat building?

The flight swings outward for another turn and there it is—the chimney and the target. The Flight Commander calls; "Line ahead—attack." Our crew is tense as a taut string—the mind clear and only three things count—the plane ahead, the flat building below and the height.

"Right a bit—right—hold it," says the voice of the Observer, his eyes glued to the bombsights. Then he yells "GONE!"—and the pilot swings the plane up and out as No. 3 goes in.

An anxious glance round for No. 1. "Got him" and they all join up on a half turn to see what has happened to the target.

Great fountains of rolling multi-coloured smoke and there go "A" Flight bombs. The smoke leaps into flame for a second, but it is too far away to see the damage—anyway the camera will see to that. They climb and jink—climb and jink until they see "C" Flight, just six knife edged slits in the sky.

A half swing round the wood and "A" Flight takes the lead. The Leader's voice: "So far so good and now home—Sections line ahead stepped up—Keep close and hold your fire."

They climb steeply for the clouds. Meanwhile the Observer has been busy. The track home is already marked from the woods where they collected. From his careful tally of the wind he sets his course for home—every Observer does this in case they get separated.

No! they were not attacked this time and all landed safely. Tired? Yes, but very satisfied for they have the week-end off. Must keep the boys fresh and fit, even in war.

So much for the Bomber; and now the Fighter

Let us hear our fighter pilot give a typical account of an evening's exploit. "The Spitfires have been looked over, filled up and re-armed immediately after the last sortie, and we are resting in our tent under the hedge near the Spitfires—and, by the way, our Fighters bear quite an assortment of Indian names—mine is 'EAST INDIA'. This is practically our last night 'on', as we are off on daylight shows over France next week.

"The Telephone bell rings, and the Flight Commander calls 'Alert', and we double off to our aircraft and tumble in, start up the engine and have a last look round at the dashboard. We each report to the Flight Commander and he calls on the radio 'Red calling, red calling—off' and away we go with a mighty rhythmic roar in two sections of three, all off in two minutes. 'Good going'.

"I am Number Two of the first section, next to the Flight Commander. Straight up we go to 27,000 feet and mighty cold it is! The sky is still light but the earth a pool of darkness. Hope we have a crack this time.

"'Red calling Tulip, Red calling Tulip, on patrol on patrol'—and our base answers almost immediately—'Tulip speaking—Tulip speaking, 12 Huns steering south—speed 250, alter course 150 at apeed 300 to intercept'.

"We all steer 150 and open up to 300 and it seems only a minute or two before Red calls 'There they are 30 degrees starboard—Two miles and above'. And there they are—clear out against the sky and probably cannot see us as we go right up under them.

"'Red calling—stand by No. 3—attack on last three'. 'GO'—and we pull right up. I've got my Hun in my sights—and press the gun switch. The guns roar and I seem to stand still a second.

"The Hun turns over and goes down, but that is an old trick and I follow, letting him have two more bursts and he just breaks up. Gosh, these new guns are good!!

"I climb up to see what is going on, close up on No. 3 and Red, who calls brusquely 'Close up and follow'. There go the Huns—three miles ahead to the West into the last of the evening glow.

"What a chance! And Red takes it—'Open up and No. 1 attack'—'Go' We go down a bit and pull right up under their tails, each taking his man. Mine slides away a bit but I've just got him in time and one long burst does it—the right wing just crumples up. That is my eighth but it has to be confirmed.

"What do I think of our mechanics? They are grand—work all hours for you. They all want to come up too. Wish they could—do them good!"

The men who thronged to join the flying services in the last war came from diverse walks of life and from all parts of the British Empire, they came from the navy and the army, form universities, schools, offices, works and farms, from the Dominions and colonies. They had little in common beyond an eagerness to serve their country and an impulse for adventure.

They were indeed very much like you who in your generation are following in their footsteps. It is not to be supposed, that when they joined their flying schools they were themselves conscious of possessing those outstanding qualities of courage and fortitude which their subsequent exploits were to demonstrate so conspicuously.

Young men of India, join the Air Force if you want to share in that tradition, join the Air Force if you want to share that comradeship of courage, join the Air Force if you want to qualify yourself physically and mentally for the battle of peace that will follow after.

There is now and there will be great scope for technical knowledge and the ability to fly. The great trading concerns in Britain reduced the period of apprenticeships by 60 per cent to Air Force Officers—Why not India? Parents, encourage your sons that they may be proud to wear the uniform that has won renown all the world over.

JUST BEFORE THE RUSSO-GERMAN WAR!

"TURKEY'S DESIRE TO REMAIN AT PEACE".

BASIS OF PACT WITH GERMANY.

ITALY NOT ALLOWED TO SIGN PACT WITH TURKEY?

The Times Ankara Correspondent cabled on June 20 (before the German declaration of War on Russia):

SPECULATION is rife regarding the causes, significance and eventual consequences of the Turkish-German pact which was signed on June 18. The Turkish Press, taking the lead from the official newspaper ***Ulus*** in Ankara, considers that the pact is a logical consequence of Turkey's desire to remain in peace, and her anxiety to reconcile her alliance with Great Britain with normal and friendly relations with Germany.

The origin of the pact goes back to last winter, when the Balkan plans of the Reich became evident after the massive concentration of German forces in Rumania. Turkey had to choose then between (1) taking her stand at the side of Britain and in support of the menaced Balkan countries, and (2) remaining neutral and striving to maintain correct and friendly relations with Germany. She chose the latter course, on the advice of her military experts, **on grounds that Great Britain being unable to give her adequate assistance Turkey could not undertake an offensive war.** The first result of this decision was the Turkish-Bulgarian declaration of February 17, which was then hailed by the Germans as Von Papen's first success. Then followed Hitler's two messages to President Inonu, and Von Papen's diplomatic action which culminated in the signature of the pact on June 18.

Undoubtedly many people in Great Britain, and quite a few in Turkey, will find the Turkish attitude perplexing, and may ask what value is left of the Turkish alliance with Great Britain. The answer is provided by the following question which is frequently heard to-day: " **In view of the events in Iraq and Syria, and purely from the British point of view, would it have been better if Turkey, having fought by the side of Yugoslavia and Greece, had been attacked and probably overrun by Germany, or is her present intact position forming an obstacle**

to the German move in the Middle East to be preferred?" Besides, it is understood that formal assurances have been given by Turkey to Great Britain that her loyalty to the Turco-British alliance entails her refusal of passage to German troops and war material through Turkish territory.

The consequences of the pact will probably be a development of trade between Turkey and Germany (Germany particularly covets Turkish chrome, which is earmarked for redemption of Turkey's debt to Great Britain) and Von Papen may endeavour to bring Turkey into collaboration in some form or other with the promotors of the "new order". The passage in a statement which he made after the signature of the pact, referring to Turkey's mission as a link between the West and the Near East, may have been more than a rhetorical figure of speech. Furthermore he is reported as having lately dropped hints about the chance for Turkey to act as a dove of peace between Britain and Germany.

Whatever truth there may be in these fantastic ideas, it seems that the conclusion of the new pact is connected in some way with the German plans concerning Russia. What Germany intends really to do with Russia is still a matter for speculation, and reports received here are conflicting. News from Rumania continues to be very alarming; the civilian population of Constanza is reported to have evacuated, and Rumanian steamers at Istanbul harbour have been instructed to cancel their arrangements for sailing to the Black Sea. Whatever the German plans are, it seems that Turkey figures on them probably in the guise of a buffer—a cover for the German flank in the case of an attack against Russia.

The Daily Telegraph's Ankara Correspondent cabled on June 20 :

Throughout the negotiations for her newly concluded pact with Turkey Germany used the words "whether we win or lose", in striking contrast with the usual "Germany victory is certain".

It is now revealed that Mussolini wanted to sign a similar agreement with Turkey, and said so at the recent Brenner meeting. Germany refused to allow this saying that Italy and Turkey were hereditary enemies, and that such a proposal would endanger the signature with the Germans.

The opinion here is that the non-aggression pact ends the danger of a German thrust by way of Anatolia to the Middle East, and simplifies the British position.

WHY DOES HITLER CONSIDER RUSSIA AN EASY VICTIM?

REASONS WHICH PROMPT SOME TO THINK THAT SOVIET CANNOT RESIST.

HOW FAR THESE HAVE A SOUND BASIS.

By

George Knupffer in the 'Daily Mail.'

(The *Daily Mail* describes George Knupffer as "one of the best-informed Russian political commentators in this country.")

WE must assume that Hitler considers Russia a relatively easy victim. What, therefore, may be some of the reasons which could prompt anyone to think that Russia cannot resist Germany? There are many reasons.

During the 20 odd years which have passed since the Russian revolution, the régime founded by Lenin and his associates has undergone great changes.

The factors determining these changes have been the natural resistance of human nature to some aspects of Communism, contradictions in the régime to the Russian spirit and tradition, and the appearance of personalities in the political field.

Russia to-day is far more national that it was in the early years of the new régime. But it is a fact that even now Stalin rules by means of totalitarian terror in addition to some more positive factor.

No real liberty exists in Russia and no trace of the rights of a citizen. **Even the vote is a mere bluff, since only the ruling party can nominate the candidates.**

Therefore, there are some things which have to be forced down the unwilling throats of the people of Russia.

Stalin could not abandon all the theories and practices of Communism, since that would have amounted to political and personal abdication. He rose by the grace of Marx, he has only been able to stay in power as his apostle.

But for years the Red régime has realised that the hopes of a world revolution have been fading, while the possibility of war became more definite. **And the only driving force which can assure a state of mind necessary for the defence of the country in war is patriotism.**

But true patriotism is love for one's country; it is in the spirtitual and cultrural sense an attachment to the tradition and glories of the past, and a hope to see them perpetuated in future.

All this is in full contradiction to the tenets of Bolshevism. **The Communists wanted to pretend that history began in 1917.**

The tragedy of Russia to-day is that the evolution of sane, stable forms is not yet complete. The negative results of the struggle between dying international Communism and rising nationalism, of many years of cruel experiments with Bolshevist theories, of the most shocking oppression and the absence of a stimulant of a spiritual and social kind able to bring forth the best in the people are all too apparent.

Millions have died of starvation in Russia; millions are still suffering from under-feeding now or in the past.

But Hitler's aggression has stimulated patriotism and nationalistic pride and enthusiasm, which may be focussed probably more on the army than on Stalin.

The very functions of the army make it nationalistic, though many of its officers may be nominally Communists. **The régime has more often than not imposed the rule of political commissars on the armed forces, and at the time of the murder of Marshal Tukhatchevsky about two-thirds of the higher officers were assassinated with him on the orders of the dictator.**

The question is, has it been possible to train efficient successors in the past four years?

As a result of the communist régime's moral and practical inefficiency, the economic condition of Russia is bad; it is true, however, that considerable stores of food and oil have been laid aside **for war,** while the numbers of men, planes and tanks and the quantity of equipment seem to be very large, though their quality may not be first class.

Thus it must be admitted that Hitler has a fairly probable if not absolutely certain case for assuming that Russia cannot resist for long. He is striking at a country which has been very ill and is still in its convalescence.

But the Russian people themselves are very strong and very talented. Their achievements not only of the past but even of the very difficult present are sufficient proof of their virility.

A new young Russia is emerging from the faded Red cocoon. It is searching for a new doctrine.

The fact that now these people must defend themselves against the strongest enemy they have faced for centuries, and that they must safeguard and justify the potential results of their costly experience of the past 25 years, may release a spiritual force of such strength that, despite all their practical difficulties, they may be able to hold up the German advance.

It is certain that ultimately, with the help of the Allies, the German locusts will be swept out. But meanwhile it would be best to consider the possibility that this process may be slow, and that for a time Germany may be in control of much or all of Russia.

And it is not with the German army alone that Hitler intends to achieve this result. He wants to take advantage of the Russian moral and political instability to introduce his *ersatz* ideas, through the Russian Quislings whom he has been training for years.

The Chief among them are General Biskupski, head of the Russian organisation and General Skoropadski, head of the Ukrainian organisation.

If these German puppets supported by German soldiers and economic and political experts could give the Russian people an even slightly more liberal régime and slightly higher standard of living, while fostering ideas and policies which may seem more attractive than those of the present dictatorship, they might enjoy a measure of success.

But the spirit of Russia, embodied in her army, which is giving its blood for its native land, will not die, and German oppression will never be entirely acceptable.

IMPORTANCE OF THE UKRAINE TO RUSSIAN ECONOMY.

ITS AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL VALUE.

WHAT EVEN TECHNICAL PENETRATION BY NAZIS WOULD MEAN.

The Manchester Guardian Diplomatic Correspondent in an article written before the outbreak of Russo-German hostilities said :

Technical and specialist penetration into the Ukraine and Southern Russia before intense German economic exploitation would mean the loss of these territories to the Soviet economy. The Soviet régime could not stand it,

and when the implications of even economic abandonment of the Ukraine are considered, it seems inconceivable that the Russians could do other than resist any such demand by force of arms.

It is clear that Germany needs the resources of the Ukraine for her war effort, and her outlook for the further course of war may force the Reich te get them. But Germany's wishes—even if they are purely economic, and the Ukraine had not for so long been frankly declared the aim of German imperialism—are incompatible with Russia's security. It seems impossible that the German aims can be achieved other than over the dead body of the Soviet Union. Can Russia be expected to commit suicide by yielding to the Nazi demands any more readily than any other sovereign state would do?

The Ukraine is of **even greater importance industrially** to the Soviet Union **than it is agriculturally**, though it is popularly thought of as primarily the granary of Russia. The last recorded **grain crop** of the Ukraine was 194,000,000 quintals, or 23 per cent of the whole crop of the Soviet Union. Harvesting starts normally in the south at the beginning of July, and is carried out largely by machinery. The crop yield is expected to be favourable. Nearly 70 per cent of Soviet **sugar-beet** is grown in the Ukraine, as well as a large part of its **oilseeds**.

In the last 15 years the industrial population of the Ukraine has doubled. With a total of nearly **30,000,000** the Ukraine is the most densely populated Soviet Republic, **and more** than a third of its people are now engaged in industry. **The Ukraine produces 63 per cent of the Soviet's iron ore, 43 per cent of its steel, 48 per cent of its rolled metal, 72 per cent of its aluminium and 35 per cent of its manganese. Sixty per cent of Soviet coal comes also from the Ukraine, and Soviet industry is largely dependent on the Ukraine for coking coal.**

The heavy and chemical industries of the Ukraine are vital to the Soviet economy. They include some of the best steel plants and some of the largest hydro-electric plants in Europe.

The Ukraine is of the highest importance to the Soviet war industry, and contains many of the best factories of the Soviet Union. One of the most vital is the steel plant at Zaporozhe which produces special and electrolytic steels for armaments, while at the same place is one of the largest aluminium industries. The Dzerzhinsky and Azovstal metallurgical plants are among the most famous in the whole country.

WHAT COURSE WILL EVENTS TAKE IN RUSSIA?

IMPORTANCE OF GEOGRAPHICAL FACTORS.

RUSSIA'S LONG-TERM CHANCES.

The ***News-Chronicle*** *Military Correspondent writes on June, 24 on the Russian campaign* :

It is too early to attempt any serious prophecy regarding the probable course of events, but two points do stand out quite clearly. These are governed by geographical facts which, indeed, are the only constants in this fluid situation.

Take Brest-Litovsk as the centre point and look east. It will be seen that the Pripet marshes stretch 100 miles to the north and the south of this central point. These marshes extend eastwards for several hundred miles. There will be no enemy thrust here.

The German assault must necessarily be in two directions—in the north a sweep towards the Baltic States north of the Pripet marshes, whilst in the south a second assault will be directed south of the Pripet marshes across the river Bug, and thence to the south-west along the valley of the Dniester in the direction of Odessa, some 500 to 600 miles distant.

Here, no doubt, the forces from Rumania bringing pressure to bear on Bessarabia, will try to effect a junction.

The Germans, thinking on a grand scale, may have in their mind as their first objective the occupation of an area with its eastern limit on the banks of the river Dnieper, whose course runs from north to south through Kiev.

To achieve this object, they will envelop the centre formed by the Pripet marshes and in this way, by a northward and southward thrust, occupy two-thirds of the Ukraine.

If this were not sufficient to shatter Russia, the Germans would then have to prepare a second offensive to carry them to the Caucasus. The limit of this second bound might well be the courses of the rivers Don and Volga.

This outline may have some resemblance to the German plan. No one can say what the chances are for or against their achieving so much success. **But, even were things to prosper exceedingly for the German High Command, it will not be until Moscow falls, and the rivers Don and Volga are reached that I shall be prepared to admit that Russia is in serious danger of being finally beaten.**

An advance on these rivers would mean traversing a 1,500 mile defence in depth. Fifteen hundred miles to reach out across a land of notoriously poor communications, with each mile of that advance making the problem of supply increasingly difficult and dangerous.

Here the cotrast between the conditions in Russia and those in France last year is very clearly drawn. **In France supplies including petrol and lubricants were widely available, and it was on these that the Panzers depended for their successful push.**

But these conditions do not prevail in the country which Germany is now attempting to overrun.

The Germans lived on the country in France, but they cannot live on the country in Russia. Everything needed by their advancing columns in the form of supplies will have to be brought from the rear.

In comtemplating the possibility of a withdrawal on the scale outlined, it must be borne in mind that **Russia has been far-sighted enough to limit the construction of industrial plants in Europe, and to concentrate on building up new industries in the east beyond the river Volga and, more important still, beyond the Urals in the far east.**

This movement is believed to have gone a long way towards completion, and in this fact lies one of the soundest reasons for believing Russia's long-term chances, even in the face of a preliminary defeat, to be good.

COSMOPOLITANA.

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1. "This war is our war. The Nazi régime is our enemy. Since this is our war, we must fight. There is no honesty in asking the British to give their lives while we supply only the tools."

(The New York Post, July, 10).

2. "All our hopes, all our aspirations and all our desires will turn to dust and ashes if the Armageddon now raging is not concluded successfully for those who are fighting for the cause of democracy."

(The Hon. Sir A. Ramaswamy Mudaliar, Commerce Member of the Government of India, Madras, July, 12).

3. "In India's war effort the Indian and the European are as one. There is very good reason for it. We are in the same boat, and if Hitler torpedoes it we are both sunk."

(Mr. M. S. A. Hydari, Representative of India on the Eastern Group Supply Council, July, 12).

4. "To-day, as a year ago, we recognise only one foe. We shall recognise him in any disguise. We shall fight him with every weapon. We shall only consider that we have accomplished our task, when he has been finally beaten."

(Mr. Anthony Eden, the British Foreign Secretary, on the occasion of the French National Day, July, 14).

5. "The people of London, with one voice, would say to Hitler: "You have committed every crime under the Sun. Wherever you have been the least resisted there you have been most brutal. It is you who began indiscriminate bombing. We remember Warsaw in the very first days of the war. We have been newly reminded of your habits by the hideous massacre of Belgrade. We know the bestial assault you are making on the Russian people, to whom our hearts go out in sympathy. We will have no truce or parley with you or the grisly gang who work your wicked will. You do your worst and we will do our best."

(Mr. Churchill, July, 14).

6. "Soldiers, sailors and airmen, my good colleagues, remain strong, unsullied and faithful. At the end of our troubles, there is the greatest glory in the world—that of men who have not surrendered."

(General de Gaulle, July, 14).

7. "The enemy must be kept at a distance, and he must be attacked wherever he is."

(Sir Claude Auchinleck, C-in-C. in India in a farewell message—published July, 2—on leaving for the Middle East Command).

Examples of Misleading Statements in Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East for the period June 30—July 6, 1941.

A.—BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH.

"FACTS—NOT PROPAGANDA"

The reports issued by the German Supreme Command,—"unlike those issued from Soviet Headquaters, deal in facts, not propaganpa" that's Lord Haw Haw's latest gem (July 6).

The British Ministry of Information has always followed the principle that facts and propaganda are synonymous, but it is obvious from Haw Haw's remark that Dr. Goebbels has other ideas. We knew that long ago, but it's good to get confirmation out of their own mouths.

Incidentally, in the same talk, Haw Haw quotes the *communiqué* issued by the German Supreme Command on July 2, which said :—

"It is becoming more and more evident that the battle of annihilation to the east of Bialystock has produced a decision of significance to the world's history. An inconceivable chaos has seized the Soviet Armies, which were placed there in order to act as a spear-head of the attack on Germany from the rear to spread the fire of Bolshevism over Europe."

Sixty-two words, of which at least 50 can be placed in the category which Goebbels labels "propaganda." Only one fact is recorded...........that there has been a big battle east of Bialystock.

IN THE AIR.

On July 4 Berlin alleged that in one daylight raid on Northern France 25 British bombers were escorted by 200 fighters and concluded that this provided "the best proof that the British Air Force is very much afraid" of the *Luftwaffe* and German anti-aircraft defences.

These daylight bomber-and-fighter sweeps are a daily feature of the R. A. F.'s mid-summer offensive which has already pushed the front line of the air war back from the shores of Britain to a depth of 60 miles inside the Continent.

In addition to escort duty, fighters themselves have special jobs such as shooting up German troop concentrations and aircraft dispersed on the ground.

Although most of the dog-fights are now taking place over enemy territory, German losses continue in the same high ratio (in relation to R. A. F. losses) as characterised the dramatic days of the attempted air invasion of Britain last autumn.

GERMAN AIR LOSSES.

In the last fortnight of June these offensive sweeps in daylight over Northern France accounted for 157 German fighters and one seaplane, while R. A. F. losses for the same period were 48 fighters and six bombers. In the same area in the first five days of this month the Germans have lost 54 fighters, shot down at a cost of 20 British fighters and 11 bombers.

In view of these facts, what is there for the R. A. F. to be "afraid of"?

ARABS AND JEWS.

Berlin continues to regale us with fabrications about "serious clashes between Arabs and Jews". On July 2 "travellers arriving at Istanbul from Baghdad" were quoted as the source of information.

It is well to recall what the editor of *Falastin*, the Palestinian newspaper, worte at the outbreak of war in September 1939:—**"The Arabs now set aside their local issues in order to play their role in this world conflict, cherishing the hope that when justice emerges victorious they will be adequately rewarded for their loyalty."**

B.—BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES.

BRITAIN AND SMALL COUNTRIES.

The inimitable Dr. Goebbels, in his Asiatic broadcasts of July 1, surpassed himself when he accused England of suppressing the freedom of all small

countries. This base and baseless lie comes ill from Nazi Germany, which has her hands already red with the blood of no less than twelve European countries—mainly small. In these countries, all freedom—political, economic, religious and social—is a thing of the past. On the other hand, the part Britain played in emancipating countries like Greece, Belgium, the Spanish American colonies, the Moslem countries of Iraq and Egypt and, yes, Italy is a matter of history. As the Egyptian paper, *All Masri* recently remarked: "**The British representative proves once more, by deeds and not by words, that the British Empire fights, not for invasion and conquest, but for the cause of right and freedom. Now, after liberating Abyssinia, she aids Free France, who proclaims the objective as the liberatian of Syria and Lebanon.**"

WITHOUT COMMENT!!

"The Swedish paper *Aftonbladet* has learnt through reliable sources in Istanbul that M. Stalin, M. Molotov and Marshal Voroshilov have asked for permission to reach India or Egypt *via* Iran."

—*Berlin radio (in Hindustani), July 4, 1941.*

GERMAN BOMBAST.

Always eager to assume the role of the crusaders of the past, the Germans in their Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts of June 6, claimed that the whole of Europe was helping Germany against Russia. The nature of this so-styled co-operation was revealed by the Chief of the Soviet Information Bureau when he published a 'secret' document captured with the German Staff of a defeated tank unit, which states: "**The occupation of the Soviet oil regions must be effected in such a way that the Hungarians are by no means able to reach them. Secondly, inasmuch as the Slovakian troops are also being utilized for this purpose, it must, by adding a German unit, be made sure that the Slovaks and the Hungarians do not clash.**" This incident, together with the Italo-Hungarian wrangles over the prostrate body of Yugoslavia clearly shows that Hitler's hordes, far from acting as allied troops, are a gang of robbers who do not believe one another and can fight among themselves over the booty at any time.

BERLIN'S IDEA OF THE INDIAN ARMY.

In the stupid diatribe Berlin betrays its wish that the Indian Army should abandon its task of defending India with the British, and assist the German purpose instead. The broadcaster **describes it as a conscript army, being probably quite unable to understand that recruiting throughout India is voluntary—** a system remote from all Nazi theories. He further declared that "all the ranks down to the lowest officer are British," a statement which everyone in India knows to be fantastically untrue.

PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

OF THE

Pudukkottai State War Information Bureau.

1941—

LECTURE LIII.

July	...19, Saturday ...	Town Hall	...	6.30 p. m.
	20, Sunday ...	College (A) English	...	10.15 a. m.
		Poovarasagudi	...	6.00 p. m.
		Venkatakulam	...	6.30 p. m.
	21, Monday ...	College (B) Tamil	...	10.15 a. m.
		Perungalur	...	6.00 p. m.
		Adanakkottai	...	6.30 p. m.
	22, Tuesday ...	Rani's High School	...	10.15 a. m.
		Arimalam	...	6.00 p. m.
		Kilanilaikottai	...	6.30 p. m.
	23, Wednesday	Kiranur	...	6.00 p. m.
		Nanjur	...	6.30 p. m.
	24, Thursday ...	C. S. M. High School	...	10.00 a. m.
		Cheri School	...	5.30 p. m.
		Malampatti	...	6.00 p. m.
		Perambur	...	6.30 p. m.
	25, Friday ...	Odayalippatti	...	6.00 p. m.
		Killukottai	...	6.30 p. m.

LECTURE LIV.

	27, Sunday ...	Town Hall	...	6.30 p. m.
		Vayalogam	...	6.00 p. m.
		Kudumiamalai	...	6.30 p. m.
	28, Monday ...	College (B) Tamil	...	10.15 a. m.
		Rani's High School	...	10.15 a. m.
		Nachandupatti	...	6.00 p. m.
		Virachilai	...	6.30 p. m.
	29, Tuesday ...	College (A) English	...	10.15 a. m.
		Tirugokarnam	...	5.30 p. m.
		Tirumayyam	...	6.00 p. m.
		Konapet	...	6.30 p. m.
	30, Wednesday	C. S. M. High School	...	10.00 a. m.
		Nallur	...	6.00 p. m.
		Mandayur	...	6.30 p. m.
	31, Thursday ...	Panayappatti	...	6.00 p. m.
		Rangiam	...	6.30 p. m.
August	... 1, Friday ...	Rajagiri	...	6.00 p. m.
		Viralimalai	...	6.30 p. m.

Sri Brihadamba State Press, Pudukkottai. 1000—19-7-41.